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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 864

By McDaniel

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Representative Bill McAfee on his meritorious service as a member of the General Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this Body should recognize those fellow legislators who have performed their elected duties with remarkable dexterity and unprecedented devotion and whose efforts to excel have brought substantial benefits to their respective communities and to this great state; and

WHEREAS, Representative Bill McAfee's illustrious career in the House of Representatives will come to an end at the adjournment sine die of the 2000 Session of the 101st General Assembly, as he has announced his retirement from this august Body; and

WHEREAS, Bill McAfee has for many years been a prominent and highly influential figure in the political, social and civic lives of Hamilton County, and he has served the people of Chattanooga in numerous capacities, always working diligently at his elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, the constituents of House District 27 evinced their great faith in the political and governmental capabilities of Bill McAfee by electing him as their representative to the General Assembly, a position in which he has performed admirably; and

WHEREAS, during his twelve terms and twenty-four years in the House of Representatives, Bill McAfee has been prominent as a dedicated and well-informed legislator who always votes his conscience; and

WHEREAS, Representative McAfee is a dynamic and aggressive participant in the legislative process and has earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues for his outstanding contributions and service as a member of the House Conservation and Environment Committee, the House Government Operations Committee and the Select Oversight Committee on Corrections; and

WHEREAS, Bill McAfee has distinguished himself as a legislative leader and public servant of uncommon talent and dedication throughout his tenure as a member of the Parks and Tourism Subcommittee, which he has served adroitly as Chair and Vice-Chair at various times; and

WHEREAS, he has courageously and vocally supported the reform of Tennessee's tax structure and has been an articulate and committed leader in this worthy endeavor; and

WHEREAS, one legislative event that is especially dear to Representative McAfee's heart is the weekly Legislative Devotional, which is held every Wednesday morning during session; and

WHEREAS, the weekly Legislative Devotional began some 22 years ago in the offices of Representative McAfee and his suitemate, Representative Bobby Wood, with a handful of faithful believers who desired to receive inspiration and worship the Lord; and

WHEREAS, the friendly confines of these offices were affectionately known as " God's Garage" by the Devotional's attendees; and

WHEREAS, as a result of Representative McAfee and Representative Wood's inspired leadership, the Legislative Devotional has grown significantly through the years and now meets in a legislative hearing room; and

WHEREAS, these remarkable gentlemen's tireless efforts in conducting and sponsoring the weekly Legislative Devotional have truly been a blessing to all who have attended, and they

are to be commended for providing an venue for uplifting fellowship, worship and testimony on Capitol Hill; and

WHEREAS, a native of Gordon County, Georgia, Billy Hugh McAfee is a graduate of Red Bud High School and attended the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, he served with acumen and alacrity as a television newscaster in Chattanooga for 14 years; and

WHEREAS, he presently serves with distinction as the Public Relations Director for Cumberland Hall Hospital in Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Bill McAfee is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Janice McAfee; his daughter Cindy Leigh McAfee; and his beloved granddaughter, Caty Clark McAfee; and

WHEREAS, Representative McAfee's announcement of his retirement from the General Assembly has greatly disconcerted and disappointed his fellow lawmakers, both Democrats and Republicans, and his considerable talents and energies will be sorely missed by the good people of House District 27; and

WHEREAS, this Body finds it appropriate to pause in its hectic schedule to bid farewell to our friend and colleague, Representative Bill McAfee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor Representative Bill McAfee on his meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we commend him for his countless contributions and many good works in service of the citizens of Chattanooga and Hamilton County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we extend to Bill McAfee our best wishes for much success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to Representative Bill McAfee as a token of our esteem.

